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11/22/94

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## I HEADING:

DATE: November 22, 1994  
SUBJ: Standard Scrap Metal/Chicago International Exporting Site  
Pollution Report  
FROM: Steve Faryan, OSC  
TO: T. Johnson, U.S. EPA, OSWER  
R. Karl, Branch Chief, EERB  
J. Cisneros, Section Chief, ERB  
D. Bruce, Chief RS-2  
K. Lindland, ORC  
D. Kimbrough, OPA  
T. Krause, IEPA  
D. Inman, Dept. of the Environment  
D. Henne, U.S. Dept. of Interior

POLREP NO: POLREP 1

## II BACKGROUND

Site No: 05HQ  
Delivery Order No: 5001-05-357  
Response Authority: CERCLA, Time Critical Removal Action  
NPL Status: Not on NPL  
State Notification: IEPA Notified (IEPA Referred the Site)  
Action Memo Status: Approved  
Start Date: October 28, 1994  
Demobilization Date: Pending  
Completion Date: October 1995

## III SITE INFORMATION

The Standard Scrap Metal/Chicago International Chicago site is located at 4004 through 4024 South Wentworth and 4020 South Wells, Chicago, Illinois, Cook County, (Latitude 87° 37' 55" North & Longitude 41° 52' 50" West). The facility is an active 3-acre scrap yard conducting operations involving the shredding of electric motors and reclamation of metals. The facility conducts operations on two parcels of property separated by Wells Avenue. The east lot (Main Yard) is approximately 2.5 acres and the west lot is approximately 0.5 acres. The Main yard has two aluminum furnaces, a ferrous metal sorter, a shredder, a cyclone separator in the main building and several large piles of ferrous, steel, and copper metal. The West Yard has a scale house, and is also used for parking semi-trailers.

The Standard Scrap Metal Company was started in 1928. Site ownership changed several times before Chicago International Exporting Company (CIEC) and Chicago International Chicago began operations under a new name 1989. The CIEC is currently involved in the shredding of electric motors some of which contain PCB capacitors and in metal recycling operations including the

operation of two unpermitted aluminum sweat furnaces. The site was investigated by Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois Pollution Board, and the Technical Assistance Team (TAT) contractor Ecology & Environment. TAT documented polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination of soil upto 2,000 milligrams/kilogram (mg/kg) and lead toxicity characteristic leachate procedure (TCLP) contamination of soil upto 81 milligrams/liter (mg/l).

#### **IV RESPONSE INFORMATION**

##### **A Situation**

###### **1 Current Situation**

- \* The site is still an active facility conducting shredding of electric motors some of which contain PCB capacitors. The PCB's are released during the shredding operations and have been documented to be contaminating the copper, steel and fluff which is seperated at the Main Yard.

- \* U.S. EPA conducted a site walk through on October 28, 1994, along with ERCS contractor RIEDEL Environmental Services (RIEDEL) and TAT contractor Ecology & Environment. TAT collected soil, scrap, and solid samples.

- \* OSC Steve Faryan, TAT, and 6 ERCS crew members mobilized at the site on November 1, 1994. U.S. EPA is currently involved in a Removal Action to abate threats posed by contaminated soil.

###### **2 Removal Activities To Date (November 1 thru 16, 1994)**

- \* A backhoe, front end loader, and a trackhoe was mobilized by ERCS for excavating West Yard.

- \* RIEDEL subcontracted Environmental Science and Engineering (ESE) company to survey the site, and grid the site area into 25 feet by 25 feet areas. Surveying was completed on 11/3/94.

- \* TAT collected samples from a majority of grid nodes, after ERCS excavated exploratory pits upto 4 feet.

- \* All pre-excavation samples were analyzed for PCBs by TAT using a gas chromatograph. Based on these results, soil excavation depths were determined for West Yard.

- \* ERCS removed non-hazardous debris whic was obstructing and inhibiting removal operations in the West Yard and shipped it to Waste Management Green Valley Landfill.

- \* ERCS excavated soil at the southern boundary of West Yard (by the wall of HEATBATH company) extending upto the scale, and backfilled with tunnel rock. Three pipes were observed coming out of HEATBATH building at about 3 feet depth and abruptly ending into site soil. These pipes were

cut and grouted.

- \* ERCS mobilized an office trailer, a decontamination trailer, and a response trailer.

- \* ERCS subcontracted an electrical contractor to setup electrical connections to these trailers. The subcontractor is currently involve in setting up electrical connections.

- \* Excavated soil is stockpiled in the northern part of West Yard. ERCS collected samples of the soil stockpile in West Yard, and the metal piles in the Main Yard.

- \* TAT collected the fluff sample from the box underneath the cyclone in Main Yard. Analytical results showed as much as 612 mg/kg PCBs and 1940 mg/kg lead.

- \* Four rounds of personnel air sampling using gillian pumps were conducted in Main Yard for PCBs and lead analysis. Samples were sent to NATSLCO for anaysis.

- \* 24 hour security is provided on-site. Tools and electrical wire was stolen in spite of the security.

### 3 Enforcement

A Section 106 Unilateral Administrative Order was issued to the owners and operators of Chicago International Exporting requiring the owners to conduct an immediate removal action at the site. The owners stated in writing that they would not be able to comply with the Unilateral Order.

The owners denied access to the U.S. EPA to conduct sampling and removal activities in the South Portion of the East Yard. U.S. EPA issued a Section 104 Access Order and enforced the Access Order in U.S. Court on November 18, 1994.

### **B Planned Removal Activity**

U.S. EPA and ERCS contractor Riedel have prepared a Removal Action Workplan outline with time line to conduct phases of the clean-up operations. In addition, a removal action Quality Assurance/Quality Assurance Sampling Plan has been prepared to conduct extent of contamination sampling, confirmation sampling and air sampling.

U.S. EPA's planned removal activity includes removing contaminated soil from the West Yard initially and set up of the command post and support zone. Sampling and excavation of the West yard will then continue. The final phase will be to sample and remove contaminated soil from the Main Yard. Also, contaminated scrap and other metal piles will be removed and disposed if

determined hazardous.

**C Next Steps**

- \* Complete excavating West Yard
- \* Arrange for the disposal of excavated soil
- \* Collect air samples from Main Yard periodically
- \* Initiate High Volume Air Sampling for PCB's and Lead
- \* Initiate Sampling in East (Main) Yard
- \* Dispose of Special Waste and TSCA/RCRA Waste

**D Key Issues**

- \* Court Hearing in U.S. District court will resolve the issue of remediation in the East or Main Yard.
- \* Commence Disposal to remove Special Waste and TSCA/RCRA Waste due to limited space on site.

**V COST INFORMATION**

	*COST	CEILING
ERCS	262,803.89	\$ 3,000,000
TAT	14,667.40	\$ 16,000
U.S. EPA	10,927.65	\$ 50,000

\* - Costs are as of 11/16/94

**VI DISPOSITION OF WASTES**

Disposal of TSCA, RCRA and mixed TSCA/RCRA waste has been bid and set up at U.S. Ecology or at Envirosafe via Railcar Transport. Loading of the railcars and disposal of the waste will commence the first week of December.

Disposal of Special Waste (Soils less than 50ppm PCB) will commence the last week of November and is set up at BFI Mallard Lakes.